

Your Community. Your Environment.  
Your Choice.



Help keep Chula Vista clean.

# Do-It-Yourself Automobile Maintenance



## Why “do-it-yourself” automobile maintenance may be harmful to our environment!

Oil, antifreeze, transmission fluid, brake and power-steering fluids, and fuels are just a few of the pollutants cars contribute to stormwater pollution. If not properly maintained, cars leak fluids onto our streets, parking lots and driveways.

When it rains, these fluids are carried to storm drains and to the nearest waterways that may flow along your neighborhood walking trails and through your community parks, canyons, creeks, golf courses, lakes and rivers. Ultimately, it all drains into the San Diego Bay.

Stormwater pollution from automobile sources can harm aquatic life, and have an impact on us all. You can prevent these fluids and other pollutants from entering the stormwater drainage system by making better choices when maintaining your vehicles.



## Make better choices. Maintain your vehicles with the environment in mind.

- ◆ Make sure to collect any unwanted oil and dispose of it properly. Auto parts stores throughout Chula Vista offer free recycling services for used oil and oil filters.
- ◆ Clean up spills quickly with rags or other absorbent materials like kitty litter. If you have a leaking car, place a drip pan, a piece of cardboard, or a carpet remnant under the leak before you take your car in for repairs.
- ◆ Wash your car on a lawn or unpaved surface and use non-toxic or biodegradable cleaning products. Dispose of leftover water in a toilet, sink or in your garden—not in the street or in a storm drain.
- ◆ We recommend washing your vehicles at commercial car washes that recycle water, and using repair shops that implement environmentally-sound practices.

Remember, it's illegal to dump unwanted fluids in the grass, street, or directly into the stormwater drainage system.



### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Public Works Operations  
1800 Maxwell Road, Chula Vista, CA 91911

[www.chulavistaca.gov/clean](http://www.chulavistaca.gov/clean)